

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00756 310826Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-13 EUR-12
PM-05 DODE-00 ACDA-12 SS-15 NSC-05 /125 W
-----098154 311255Z /50

R 310729Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0924
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 0756

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, SA, DJ
SUBJECT: SAUDI ASSISTANCE TO DJIBOUTI

1. MFA DIRECTOR FOR ASIAN AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS AHMAD SIRAJ INFORMED POL COUNSELOR AND POL OFFICER JOHN LIMBERT ON JANUARY 30 VTHAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD DECIDED TO EXTEND \$60 MILLION IN AID TO DJIBOUTI. THE FIRST \$20 MILLION WILL BE FOR BUDGETARY SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF DJIBOUTI INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUCH FIELDS AS EDUCATION. THE OTHER \$40 MILLION WILL BE DEVOTED TO SPECIFIC AID PROJECTS. BEFORE DECIDING ON WHICH PROJECTS TO APPROVE, SAG HAS REQUESTED A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF DJIBOUTI ECONOMY BY KNOWLEDEABLE ORGANIZATION SUCH AS IMF. PRESIDENT GOULED TOLD SAG DURING RECENT VISIT THAT EC WAS DOINT SUCH A STUDY AND THAT REPORTS WOULD BE READY WITHIN TWO MONTHS. SIRAJ DID NOT KNOW WHO WAS DOING THE STUDY BUT HE SURMISED THAT IT WAS FRENCH SINCE GOULED HAD INDICATED THAT REPORTS WOULD BE IN FRENCH.

2. SIRAJ EMPHASIZED THAT SAG HAD NOT YET INFORMED
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 00756 310826Z

DJIBOUTI GOVERNMENT ON DECISIONS REPORTED ABOVE.

3. SIRAJ ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT SAG DESIRED TO INSURE STABILITY IN DJIBOUTI AND TO HELP PERSERVE ITS INDEPEN- DENCE. SAG WOULD NOT WANT TO SEE DJIBOUTI COME UNDER INFLUENCE OF ETHIOPIA SINCE THIS WOULD MEAN THAT BAB AL-MANDEB WOULD BE BORDERED ON BOTH SIDES BY SOVIET-

DOMINATED STATES. SIRAJ THOUGHT THAT U.S. COULD HELP
IN PERSERVING DJIBOUTI INDEPENDENCE BY EXTENDING MILI-
TARY AID. GOULED DOES NOT NEED EXTENSIVE AID BUT HE
NEEDS LIGHT WEAPONS TO MAINTAIN INTERNAL SECURITY AND
TO PATROL BORDER WITH ETHIOPIA. SIRAJ ALSO SUGGESTED
THAT WESTERN POWERS SHOW THEIR INTEREST IN DJIBOUTI
BY ARRANGING TO HAVE FLEET VISITS ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS
AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK. WE SAID WE WOULD PASS THESE
SUGGESTIONS ON TO WASHINGTON.
WEST

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
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Draft Date: 31 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3753838
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAUDI ASSISTANCE TO DJIBOUTI
TAGS: EAID, SA, DJ
To: STATE DJIBOUTI
Type: TE
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